



NEWS RELEASE

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PARHAM NAMED DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS BUSINESS SERVICES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23, 2008--Gregory Parham has been named deputy administrator of the marketing and regulatory programs business services unit within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

"Greg's years of distinguished federal service, dedication to customer support and expertise in the field of information technology make him an ideal choice for this position," said administrator Cindy Smith. "With his vast knowledge of the department and strategic management approach, Greg will lead a diverse program that provides the critical infrastructure and resources that enable our dedicated employees to protect and promote American agriculture."

In his new role, Parham is responsible for providing a variety of support services including human resources management, financial management and procurement and contracting that support the objectives of APHIS, the Agricultural Marketing Service and the Grain Inspection and Packers and Stockyards Administration. These three agencies collectively form the marketing and regulatory programs' mission area of USDA. In addition, Parham will provide a variety of support services to APHIS, including information technology management and investigative services.

Parham began his federal career in 1980 as an epidemic intelligence service officer with the public health service at the Centers for Disease Control. He joined USDA in 1982, working with the Food Safety and Inspection Service, the Extension Service and the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service. Prior to his recent appointment, Parham was APHIS' chief information officer and provided leadership related to the agency's information technology planning, design, application development, systems administration, telecommunications, security and information management and customer support services.

Parham came to APHIS in 2006 after serving in the USDA office of the chief information officer where he led the unit that provided leadership for information technology initiatives including capital planning and investment control, enterprise architecture, information technology workforce planning and project management.

Parham earned a master of administrative science degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1986 and prior to that completed a doctor of veterinary medicine degree in 1980 and a bachelor of science degree in microbiology, both from Ohio State University. Parham has been a University of Maryland adjunct graduate faculty member and is also a diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine.

Note to Reporters: USDA news releases, program announcements and media advisories are available on the Internet. Go to the APHIS news release page at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom>. Also, anyone with an e-mail address can sign up to receive APHIS press releases automatically. Send an e-mail message to lyris@mdrdlyriss10.aphis.usda.gov and leave the subject blank. In the message, type subscribe press_releases.